

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1833, May 8, 1954

FARMING IS THE LIFE FOR HIM

All the way from a London factory to British Columbia

WHAT do you do if you are only 17, have no funds, and want to set yourself up in farming in British Columbia?

Raymond Stanley Somerfield, a Walthamstow boy, knows the answer: you work hard, save hard, learn all you can, and seek help from the right people.

It is little more than a year since, working in a London factory, Raymond Somerfield felt the call of the land. He talked it over with his parents, and off he went to Wilderwick at East Grinstead for the start of his new career.

Wilderwick is one of the centres where the Y.M.C.A. train boys for farming in their "British Boys for British Farms" scheme. Over 13,000 have been through these centres since the scheme began.

Raymond liked the work at the centre. He liked it even more when he took his first real job, on

Raymond just before he sailed on the Empress of Australia, and this is what he told us:

"My farm wage as a beginner was a shilling or two over £5 a week, and I paid 35s. for my lodging in the village. I wanted to have my passage-money so that I could go in the Spring, so I saved hard and took all the odd jobs I could get, to have a little extra. I'm selling the bike that I had when I came here, and with a bonus of £20 that Mr. Kidner gave me, I've saved £130.

"That pays my fare and leaves me about £50 for the first few months in Canada. My first job there will be on a dairy farm in Ontario, which has been arranged through the Y.M.C.A. and the Church in Canada. Work on the dairy farm will be for about half the year. In the other half I shall go lumbering in the north, and you earn good money at that.

PLACE OF HIS OWN

"It will take me two years, or three at the most, to save enough to get started on my own place in British Columbia. I shall not employ anyone at first, I shall get all my own meals, and I shall concentrate on dairying."

From the farmer whom he was learning just how hard Raymond saved to make sure of his passage-money this Spring. "We happen to know," said Mr. Kidner, "that in seven weeks Raymond spent only 7½d.—and that was for the postage on three letters to his parents."

The C.N. wishes God Speed to Raymond in his enterprise. In due time we hope to hear that he has finished his lumber-jacking and has started milking the cows on his own farm in British Columbia.



Raymond Somerfield

the farm of Mr. J. C. Kidner, near Horsham. That was last June. By October he had seen films, read books, and heard a Canadian farmer talk, all about farming in Canada; and his mind was made up. He would become a farmer on his own account, in British Columbia.

Now he is half-way to realising his ambition. The C.N. interviewed

MOBILE SCHOOL IN HOLLAND

A firm of coachbuilders at Appingedam, Holland, has been commissioned by the Dutch Mobile School Foundation to construct the first travelling school in the Netherlands.

So far only one mobile school is being prepared as an experiment, but if it is successful another four or five such schools may follow. It is hoped that these will provide for the country's

itinerant children—those attached to fairs, circuses, and so on.

Each travelling school will accommodate 24 pupils and will be equipped with electrical floor-heating, and ventilation. During the winter it will be warmed with electrically-heated air. Living accommodation for the headmaster is included, and with a schoolroom the overall length of the complete vehicle is about 60 feet.



JUNGLE CLINICS

Sister Marie Marquette, director of a small hospital in a Bolivian jungle, recently described her work to an audience in New York.

Her hospital is near the headwaters of the River Amazon. It was built by the United States Government and opened in 1945 as part of a Public Health project.

There are only about eight members on the hospital staff, including two sister doctors. They minister to approximately 35,000 people in an area of about 40,000 square miles. This means that a visiting nurse may be faced with a three to five days' canoe journey into the wild jungle.

The white garbed sisters set up little clinics miles from their hospital base and care for patients suffering from almost everything from malnutrition or malaria to snake bites. They have also saved the lives of many babies.

UNDER THE WALLPAPER

Twenty-five pages of a book printed in 1480 have been found stuck to walls of a Stockholm building which was put up in 1730. They were under several layers of wallpaper.

Britannia's Escort

The frigate H.M.S. Loch Alvie was escort vessel to the Royal Yacht Britannia when she took the Royal children from Portsmouth to Tobruk. Smiling cheerfully through a lifebelt is the youngest rating in the ship, 18-year-old Peter Barratt of Whitley Bay in Northumberland.

SCHOOLBOYS SAVE MOUNTAINEER

Two 17-year-old schoolboys from Whitley Bay, Ken Smith and John Whitley, played a leading part in rescuing a 42-year-old farmer, Mr. Allan Balch, who had been injured in the Highlands.

The farmer and his companion, Michael Barlen, a 23-year-old Gordonstoun teacher, fell while roped together for their climb of Cairntoul, a 4000-foot peak of the Cairngorms. Balch was dragged to the foot of an ice-slope.

The schoolboys raced to Derry Lodge and led back a climbing party of English students through a blizzard.

These gave the farmer morphia injections, guided by a book of instructions. Then they put him behind a rock for shelter while further help was sought.

SAFELY DELIVERED

A letter from Ontario which arrived in this country was addressed to "Large ironmonger, up the hill from the old castle, close to the hotel opposite police station, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, England."

It was delivered to a firm in Guildhall Street, and was an order for a hedging tool similar to one the writer had bought from the shop during the war.

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SWEDEN'S PLACE IN WORLD AFFAIRS

C.N. Diplomatic Correspondent

A NEW chapter in the long friendship between Britain and Sweden opens this month with special arrangements to increase the flow of trade between the two countries.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Britain's Foreign Secretary, has given his personal best wishes to the plans, which include the establishment in Stockholm of an Anglo-Swedish Chamber of Commerce to deal with trading problems.

The occasion chosen for these practical steps was the 300th anniversary of Britain's first treaty of "friendship and commerce" with Sweden, completed in April 1654 and ratified by Oliver Cromwell three months later.

Our Swedish friends, a staunch, self-confident race, have come a long way since those days, and their progress is one of the success stories of Europe.

When their Queen Christina agreed to that first friendship pact with Britain, Sweden had not long emerged from the triumphs of Gustavus Adolphus in the Thirty Years' War. This reputation as a brilliant military power was long maintained, but by the early part of the 19th century Sweden came to the conclusion that she must stand apart altogether from power politics. This decision was a turning-point in Sweden's history.

IMPORTANT POSITION

To this day Sweden has refused to commit herself in any way to alliances which oppose any other countries, and her situation, her complete neutrality and her determination to defend it, have given her a position in the world of unusual importance.

Sweden has supplied some of the best of her public men to world service. One calls to mind the noble and altruistic Count Bernadotte, Dag Hammarskjöld, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Gunnar Myrdal, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, and Alfred Nobel, founder of the world-famous Nobel Prize.

More than ever before there is need today for such disinterested services to mankind.

VIGOROUS NEUTRALITY

The Swedes are too practical to believe that, single-handed, they could prevent crises in world affairs. But as a vigorous neutral Sweden can and does help in this direction. Through her membership of the United Nations she has assisted as a mediator in Palestine and in Korea.

Perhaps there is a certain loneliness in neutrality which quickens interest in international work. Certainly it has strengthened Sweden's sympathy and understanding of nations with widely differing aims and ambitions.

The days of pomp and military supremacy will never return for Sweden, yet the respect and admiration in which she is held have never been higher.

Her friendship with Britain is based on mutual faith in democracy, and Sweden's level-headed independence makes the latest renewals of that friendship of still greater value to Britain.

HIGH-SPEED WIND TUNNEL

Fourteen British aircraft firms are sharing in the construction of a new wind tunnel for testing the powers and capabilities of high-speed aircraft.

This new wind tunnel will have a working section large enough to accommodate models up to a five-foot span, and will test them at a speed equivalent to 1000 miles per hour at sea level—technically termed "a Mach number of 1.3."

Eighteen months were spent in designing the tunnel, and its construction, now in progress, near Bedford, will take about two years to complete.

A compressor house, and an observation room will be built in addition to the tunnel, and electric motors of a power of 35,000 h.p. will be needed to operate it. Power will be taken direct from the 132,000 volt grid system, and a staff of between 80 and 100 people will be employed when research work commences.

Proud profile



A pelican at the London Zoo poses for a "close-up."

CHILDREN'S ROYAL ACADEMY

A selection of 204 pictures by young artists from the record entry of over 5500 submitted, is on view until May 8 at this year's "Children's Royal Academy" in London's Guildhall Art Gallery.

The Exhibition, organised by the Royal Drawing Society, is to be shown later at Worthing, Birkenhead, Portsmouth, Royal Leamington Spa, and Gateshead.

The two principal prizes have been won by 15-year-old Tessa Smith of Faversham for her picture, "A Roller-Hockey Match," and by Julie Bowman, aged 14, of Chislehurst, for "Moonlight."



By the C.N. Press Gallery Correspondent

THE Government have left to the House of Commons the problem of deciding whether the salaries of M.P.s should be raised by £500 to £1500 a year.

Sir Winston Churchill has stated that "it would not be right" for the Government to proceed in that manner and also to bring in a non-contributory pensions scheme.

Both these changes were recommended by an all-party Select Committee of the Commons. But "in present circumstances" the Government are unwilling to take the responsibility for endorsing the Select Committee's findings.

WHILE this issue is being resolved the position might be considered of members of "the other place"—as House of Commons phraseology describes the House of Lords.

Peers who take an active part in the work of the Upper House, of course, draw no parliamentary salary. Only peers who are members of the Government do so.

It has always been assumed that peers are wealthier than members of the Lower House. But nowadays this is more often the exception than the rule.

The Government promised in the last Queen's Speech to consider the question of House of Lords reform. That suggestion arose from the fact that previously the Government and Opposition parties had been unable to agree upon the powers a reformed House of Lords should have.

Up to 1911 the Lords could veto any Commons bill. The Parliament Act of that year imposed conditions which made it impossible for the Upper Chamber to hold up a major measure for more than two years, and it took from the peers altogether the right to delay money bills.

This question of powers is also tied up with the actual physical composition of the chamber. How many peers should there be in the House of Lords? Who should they be? Should women be admitted to membership?

These are only a few of the matters which, from time to time, have been under discussion. There is also a school of opinion which holds that, as the Lords do a most efficient job in revising bills, they should be left alone.

MR. LANGFORD-HOLT: Are all pests officers rat catchers, or all rat catchers pests officers?

Mr. Nugent, for the Ministry of Agriculture: The pests officers are, so to speak, in the advisory strata. It is the operatives who are actually involved in the catching.

I DEPLORE the jargon which is used in planning. We "decant" people and talk about "overspill." We seem to be introducing liquid terms into the housing of the people.—A junior Minister.

News from Everywhere

ROAD SAFETY YEAR

A series of nation-wide propaganda drives on road safety will be held this year instead of a National Road Safety Week. In this way it is hoped that road users will co-operate for every week of the year instead of for only one.

Six girl members of Brighton Swimming Club will act as life guards on Brighton beach at weekends this summer.

The 19th-century Rhenish tower, noted landmark at Lynmouth which was destroyed in the floods of August 1952, has been replaced with a tower of identical design. The iron basket which used to hold a navigational light on top of the old tower was salvaged and has been placed on the new one.

THROUGH THICK AND THIN

A Portsmouth baker has begun selling a loaf cut partly thick for toast and thin for sandwiches.

Echo soundings taken by a passenger vessel operating between Aberdeen and Lerwick are to be broadcast regularly by the BBC on the drifter wave-band to aid fishermen searching for herring shoals.

A sidecar Tourist Trophy race is to be run in the Isle of Man this year—the first event of its kind in the island since 1925.

Britain's total of 3,800,000 motor vehicles is greater than that of any other country in the world except the U.S.A.

CRUMBS!

In 1953 production in British biscuit factories rose to a new high level of 461,457 tons. It is estimated that 255 million biscuits are eaten each day in the United Kingdom.

The Gobi Desert in Mongolia was covered by sea 60 million years ago, say Russian experts. Remains discovered a few years ago indicate that it was inhabited by tortoise-like lizards 15 feet long and nine feet wide.

LONG RIDE

Postman Peter MacIntosh of Tongue, in Northern Scotland, has just retired after 33 years. During his service he has cycled 210,000 miles delivering mail.

An Eisenhower Museum has been opened at Abilene, Kansas, to house a large part of the President's mementoes, trophies, and souvenirs.

Port Charlotte, Islay, has become the first Highland village to give its streets name plates in Gaelic.

Provided enough talent can be recruited, Surrey is to form a County Youth Orchestra consisting of some 40 boys and girls between 14 and 20.

Some 550 out of 600 people were observed to walk in the road rather than under a ladder on the pavement of a street in Mexborough, Yorkshire.

Brighten your day!

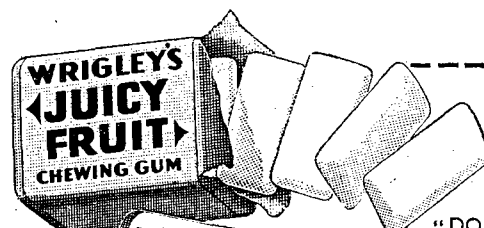
Chew Wrigley's lively gum

The jolly flavour freshens your taste

You can make it last and last

It's such fun to chew

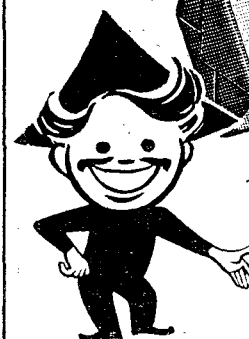
CLIP ME OUT!



WRIGLEY GAME No. 4

"DONKEYS AND CATS"

There are two teams—the donkeys and the cats. Get 11 pieces of Wrigley's gum, wrap them each in paper and hide them... The two teams hunt for them. When a cat finds one he or she *Meow's* until the team captain collects it. Captains may not hunt themselves and may pick up only one piece of Wrigley's at a time. If a cat "finds" a donkey may *Hee-Haw* beside it too. If the donkey's captain arrives first, he gets the gum. The team with the most Wrigley's chewing gum wins.



Chew

WRIGLEY'S

The Children's Newspaper, May 8, 1954

CARGOES OF WATER

It is not always realised that one of the principal export cargoes handled at Southampton is water. It is pointed out in Lock and Quay, the house journal of The Docks and Inland Waterways Executive, that large demands for fresh drinking water are made by vessels calling at Southampton.

The large liners take aboard quantities of between one million and two million gallons each trip, and the large oil-tankers voyaging to countries where water supplies are inadequate also take very large supplies.

When recently the Greek tanker Olympic Valley arrived at the port from Kiel on her maiden voyage she placed an order for just over four million gallons of water, which were promptly delivered.

ISLANDS FOR SALE

The 100-acre Orkney isle of Papa Stronsay is up for sale. Its only inhabitants, Mr. Edward Seador and his family, have decided to sell because it is too lonely.

They bought Papa Stronsay and its farm nine years ago. The family of six have cultivated it, using only peat for fuel, for there is neither electricity nor gas on the island. Mr. Seador also lighted the island's danger beacon for shipping.

Now he has bought a farm outside Kirkwall, on Mainland, largest island in the Orkney group.

The 760-acre Orkney isle of Gairsay is also in the market. The only inhabitants are Mrs. Lorna Coventry and her daughter. Their only companions for four years have been sheep, sea-birds, and seals.

DANCING ALL DAY LONG

Every year, on May 8, Helston, Cornwall, holds its famous Flora Dance, all along the streets and in and out of the houses. The fun lasts all day and well into the evening but it starts—for the over-fifteens—at seven o'clock in the morning.



Family affair

Mr. Henry Stoneham of Rainham in Essex went into the building business—and engaged his family to help him. Here he is seen with his 21-year-old daughter Barbara (left), who is a fully-qualified plumber, 15-year-old Anthony, and 17-year-old Rita. Mr. Stoneham recently paid his first visit to a cinema in 20 years—to see himself in a newsreel!

PLANE FOR THE HIGHLANDS

A new Scottish-designed-and-built transport plane—the second such machine to originate from “North of the Border”—is expected to fly in August this year.

Called the Twin Pioneer, it is being constructed by Scottish Aviation, and is designed to fly from very small airstrips. Capable of carrying up to 16 passengers over ranges up to 600 miles, it will be able to operate from rough, unprepared fields of less than 200 yards long.

An all-metal monoplane with a high, strutted wing, the Twin Pioneer is generously provided with flaps and slots to give it incredibly short take-off and landing runs. Its maximum speed is 174 m.p.h., and its landing speed is 47.5 m.p.h.

One of the plane's many novel features is a folding passenger cabin door, the bottom part of which can be lowered, to the ground to form a short passenger entrance gangway, so there is no need for steps.

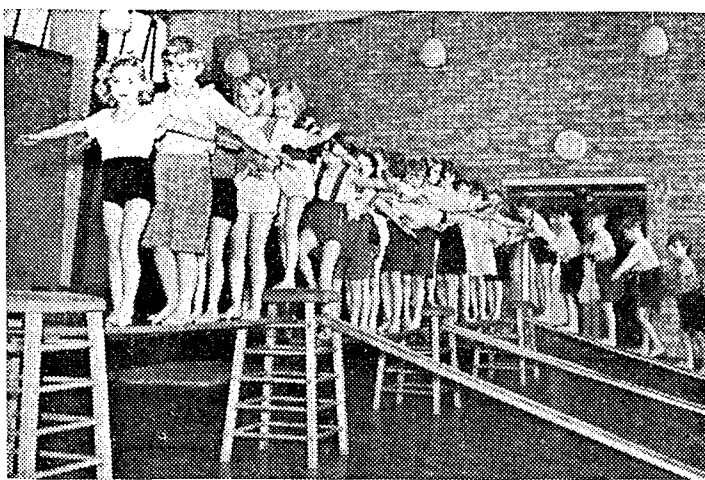
To hasten the development of the machine, which will operate in the Highlands and islands, the Ministry of Supply is providing financial and technical assistance.

PLASTIC BOATS ARE TOUGH

Ship's lifeboats made of plastic were recently tested by the Dutch Shipping Inspection Department.

The first one to be built by a Dutch firm was loaded to 25 per cent of its normal carrying capacity and then slung violently against the quayside. The only result was a dirty mark at the point of impact. Then, in an effort to inflict some real damage, the boat was given blows with a sledgehammer. Again it proved capable of withstanding rough handling.

Another such boat, at Takoradi, Gold Coast, became wedged between a ship and the wharf; but though under great pressure, and temporarily squeezed out of shape, it was neither cracked nor crushed.



Learning to balance

These young people at the Westville Primary School at Shepherds Bush, London, find that school can be great fun, especially when they can make use of the Essex apparatus in the gymnasium.

TARTAN WHEREVER SHE GOES

Dressed in tartan clothes specially designed by her father, Sheila Macpherson, daughter of a Highland outfitter in Edinburgh, is due to leave Scotland on Saturday as a “tartan ambassador” to Canada and the United States.

Sheila, who is 21, will be wearing a dress and jacket made in her own clan tartan, which she will display everywhere she goes in Canada and the U.S.A. And in her luggage there will be samples of recent tartan handbags, ladies' waistcoats, and stoles.

In Canada Sheila will visit St. Catherine's, where she was born, just 12 miles from the famous Niagara Falls. She will spend five months at the home of her uncle, Mr. Richard Macpherson, and learn from him something about the distribution side of the tartan business.

66 DAYS ON A RUBBER RAFT

Dr. Alain Louis Bombard, who in 1952 crossed the Atlantic alone in a rubber raft, has been awarded the Mungo Park Medal of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, in recognition of his scientific investigations.

Dr. Bombard made the voyage to prove his theory that shipwrecked people need not die of hunger and thirst. His ordeal lasted 66 days, and what he discovered may save many lives at sea.

HELP-YOURSELF COAL

Right in the middle of Huddersfield's newest housing estate giant mechanical excavators have revealed a seam of rich outcrop coal. It is only three feet below the surface and is three feet six inches thick in places. So quite a lot of people became amateur miners and stocked their cellars.

THE QUEEN'S CAMELLIA

From Mobile in Alabama comes news of a new variety of camellia, described as “a perfect flower,” which is to be christened Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Two plants of the new strain have been delivered at Windsor as a gift from the camellia growers of the United States.

BRITAIN'S FIRST JET

Britain's first aero jet engine, the pioneer of a new age in aviation, is on view at the British Industries Fair, open at Olympia in London until May 14.

It is interesting to recall that in 1936 Sir Frank Whittle went round the stands at the British Industries Fair seeking a solution to the problems he was then meeting in developing the world's first aero gas turbine engine. Now, 18 years later, this product of his early efforts is a unique feature of the Fair and is to be seen on the Patent Office stand.

The engine is called WU and was built by the British Thomson Houston Company of Rugby. It has been loaned to the Fair by Power Jets (Research and Development) Limited.

WU was broken by turbine failure in 1941, and visitors who peer between its combustion chambers can see its damaged turbine disc and mis-shapen blades. But they will also be seeing the prototype of a power-unit which has revolutionised flying.

MEMORIAL TO BOMBER COMMAND

A stained glass window to commemorate the 55,500 airmen of R.A.F. Bomber Command killed in the last war, is to be unveiled this Saturday in the Airman's Chapel of St. Michael at Lincoln Cathedral.

It will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln.

Schoolgirl's Best Friend



A Hercules cycle is like a good friend, bright, reliable and always ready to go out with you. Smoothly and easily you simply whiz along—but keep your eyes on the road and be ready to brake. Hercules cycles are sensibly priced. The “CA” Safety as illustrated costs only £12.19.6, in shining black enamel. There is a small extra cost for the newest colours—Burgundy, Olive Green or Fuchsia.

SEE YOUR LOCAL HERCULES DEALER about confidential Easy Terms

Please send for FREE copy of Full-Colour “Wonder Wheels” catalogue to Dept. C.N., The Hercules Cycle & Motor Co. Ltd., Aston, Birmingham.

Hercules

THE FINEST BICYCLE BUILT TO-DAY

CAMERA CORNER

A series of articles by an expert to help young photographers to get better results from their favourite hobby.

G. Avoiding Camera Shake

CAMERA shake is a common amateur fault and is caused by moving the camera during exposure. This is shown by the picture appearing duplicated on the print and it becomes more apparent when enlargements are made.

It is almost impossible to hold a camera steady for an exposure of longer than one-twenty-fifth of a second. (You will remember that the instantaneous speed on box cameras is about this length of time). However, shake is possible even with short exposures and you must use every means to keep steady.

HOLD YOUR BREATH

One way is to hold the camera close to your body just above the waist and hold your breath while working the shutter release fairly slowly. Jerking can be avoided by holding the camera so that downward pressure on the shutter release is counteracted by upward pressure on the camera body.

If you have an eye-level viewfinder, hold the camera as close to your face as possible and keep your arms and elbows well tucked in. You can obtain maximum support by leaning against walls or other solid objects.

Some people have a natural wobble and the best way of testing yourself is to practise using the camera in front of a mirror.

Watch as you press the shutter release and if the camera jerks, try holding it differently. If this does not help, you will have to use some reliable support when taking photographs.

For exposures of longer than one-twenty-fifth of a second, the camera must be properly supported. This can be done by placing it on some solid object and firing the shutter with a CABLE RELEASE. This release consists of a stout wire running in a metal tube and it can be connected to a special hole in the camera. With this the shutter can be fired from a distance and this helps to prevent any tendency to shake in long exposures.

Where no other support is available, a TRIPOD can be used, and most cameras have a special socket into which the tripod can be screwed. But some box cameras are not provided with this fitting. Unfortunately, most of the cheaper tripods are made of metal tubing and these tend to become rather wobbly after some use.

A stronger, smaller, and cheaper device is the CAMERA CLAMP. The clamp is connected to the camera by the tripod hole and it can then be fixed to chair-backs, railings, and many other objects. It does this without damage and is as solid as the object to which it is fixed. Some of these clamps have a handy device for screwing into wooden posts. W. S. S.

THE YOUNG MEN FROM PAKISTAN

The Pakistan cricketers start their first official tour of this country on Saturday at Worcester. During the summer they are to play four Test matches—at Lord's, Nottingham, Manchester, and the Oval—their first series against England.

Many of the tourists, including A. H. Kardar, the 29-year-old skipper, are no strangers to this country. Kardar himself was here in 1946 as a member of the Indian Test team, and stayed to win three Blues at Oxford. He also gained his Warwickshire County cap, becoming one of the best amateur all-rounders in this country before returning to Pakistan in 1951.

Several of his colleagues have had experience of English wickets with League sides in the North, and some of the younger men toured this country in 1952 as the Pakistan Eaglets, meeting mainly our best club sides.

Kardar captains a youthful team. One of the youngsters is 18-year-old Mohammad Hanif, who earned the title of "wonder boy" with his magnificent batting feats against the M.C.C. tourists in 1952, and in Tests against India. During that tour he became the

youngest player ever to score two separate hundreds in one first-class match, and to collect a double century, all before he was 17. His elder brother Wazir Mohammad is also a member of the present touring team.

Two 17-year-olds are among the tourists: Khalid Wazir, the son of the late Major S. Wazir Ali, who made two visits to this country with Indian Test teams before the war; and Khalid Hassan, a slow bowler, who comes here direct from the Punjab University.

The Pakistan batsmen believe in hard hitting. Imtiaz Ahmad has scored dozens of centuries, including a treble hundred against a Commonwealth side; and Ikram Elahi, a student at Sind once hit 317 in 3½ hours, including 32 in one over.

THE BOWLERS

Among the bowlers in the side are Khan Mohammad, who plays for Lowerhouse in the Lancashire League, and will only be available for the Tests; vice-captain Fazal Mahmood, who is known as Pakistan's Bedser; Mahmood Hussain, a fast bowler from Karachi, famed for his stamina; and Zulfiqar Ahmad, an off-spinner from Bahawalpur, who can "bowl all day" if necessary.

These young men from Pakistan enjoy their cricket. They do not expect to beat England, but they are determined to play the game in the truest sporting spirit. We wish them good fortune.



A. H. Kardar, Pakistan's captain

It happened this week

WAGES FOR M.P.s DEMANDED

MAY 2, 1842. LONDON.—Exciting scenes were witnessed outside the Houses of Parliament today when a crowd of many thousands gathered to see the procession of the second National Petition organised by the Chartists.

The Chartists are urging sweeping reforms in the whole conduct of Parliament. One of their novel demands is that Members of Parliament should be paid wages for their services in the Commons!

The petition—attached to a great bobbin-like panel mounted on poles—was carried to Parliament by 30 "bearers." It is claimed that it bore no fewer than 3,317,702 signatures.

Printed on one side of the frame upon which it was carried were the six reforms the Chartists are demanding. These are: 1. Universal suffrage; 2. Annual Parliaments; 3. Voting by ballot; 4. Payment of M.P.s; 5. Abolition of property qualifications; 6. Equal electoral districts.

The petition was handed over to Mr. T. S. Dunscombe, M.P., for presentation to Parliament.

(Next day the House rejected the Petition by 287 votes to 49.)

FAMOUS ACTOR HONOURED

MAY 3, 1769. STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—A casket made from the wood of the mulberry tree planted by Shakespeare himself was used to hold the parchment conferring the Freedom of Stratford-on-Avon on Mr. David Garrick at a ceremony here today.

In this way the town where Shakespeare was born honoured one who is considered the greatest actor of the age and one of England's ablest actor-managers.

Carved on the front of the casket is a figure representing Fame holding a bust of Shakespeare. On the back Mr. Garrick is shown in the storm scene from King Lear.

NAPOLEON'S END

MAY 5, 1821. ST. HELENA.—Napoleon Bonaparte, ex-Emperor of France and once supreme despot of the Continent, is dead. The man who once ruled millions and was surrounded by all the pomp and trappings of a luxurious imperial court died here today.

He had been a lonely exile here since October, 1815, when—after his final defeat by Wellington and Blücher on the field of Waterloo—he was banished to St. Helena by the European powers.

The Corsican soldier who became an Emperor was defiant to the end. To his will he added a codicil leaving 10,000 francs to the French officer who was accused of having attempted to assassinate the Duke of Wellington.

"He had as much right to assassinate that oligarchist as the latter had to send me to perish on the isle of St. Helena," he wrote.

He asks that his ashes might be scattered on the banks of the Seine.

ON THE AIR—By Ernest Thomson, our Radio and TV Correspondent

BY PLANE OR BY SHIP TO PARIS?

WOULD you rather travel from London to Paris by air or by land and sea? Young listeners will have a chance to decide at the end of May when Saturday Excursion in Children's Hour will deal with two ways of going to the French capital.

A few days ago BBC reporter Alun Williams went to Victoria Station, London, and was seen off on the Golden Arrow by Wynford Vaughan Thomas. Directly the train left Vaughan Thomas literally leaped into his car and drove to Lympne airfield, Kent, where he and his car were taken aboard for a cross-Channel flight.

The two men met hours later at the Gare du Nord, Paris, and compared notes on their journeys. Saturday Excursion will record their conversation.

Cricket on the screen

ON Saturday TV cameras go to the Oval for a curtain raiser on summer sport—the first day's cricket between Surrey and Warwickshire. TV will cover only one day's play, however, for the outside broadcast units will need a special overhaul for the Queen's return. But it was felt that one day's cricket so early in the season was better than none at all.

Miles at sea

SAILORS and Wrens on the flight deck of Britain's latest aircraft carrier, H.M.S. Centaur, will be the on-the-spot audience for the first Miles Ahead, the new fun-and-games series in the Light Programme, starting on Friday at 7.30 p.m.

With New Zealander Michael Miles as quiz-master and host, the show will visit a different Services unit each week.

Michael Miles tells me that his own speciality will be a general knowledge quiz. Among regular weekly guests will be Leslie Welch, the Memory Man.

Volunteers on parade

EACH of the eight countries exchanging TV programmes during the month of Eurovision—June 6 to July 4—will provide, among others, an important outside broadcast.

Britain's contribution will be the R.N.V.R. Review by the Queen on the Horse Guards Parade, London, on June 12.

I hear that the commentator will be Barrie Edgar, well known to viewers of Children's TV. He served in the Fleet Air Arm during the war and is still an R.N.V.R. officer.

Ring and look

A TELEPHONE-TELEVISION service has been started between Tokyo and Osaka, 310 miles away. Callers can be seen on TV screens at both ends.

Thanks to Morris

YOUNG listeners and viewers all know Johnny Morris, the West-country funny man who runs radio's Pass the Salt and On the Job in TV.

The other day he and his BBC producer, Desmond Hawkins, were



Johnny Morris

invited to Eastville Junior Mixed School, Bristol, to meet the boys and girls and receive the headmaster's thanks.

Because his pupils' English composition was poor, the headmaster had advised them to watch or listen to Johnny Morris and note his excellent prose and diction.

The results exceeded all expectations.

Bird counting

THE third annual International Bird Song Contest will be broadcast in the Home Service at seven o'clock on Sunday evening, May 23. The contestants are England and Scotland.

Douglas Fleming will have a microphone in an English wood in Suffolk, and Henry Douglas-Home will be bird-listening in a wood in the Scottish Border country.

In a studio in Broadcasting House well-known bird imitator Percy Edwards, will be counting up the number of different bird calls from each locality. The country scoring the greatest number in the 20-minute session will be winners.

Rugger on Soccer ground

TELEVISION cameras will be on Manchester City's Soccer ground on Saturday to show perhaps the most exciting Rugby match of the year. This is the Rugby League Championship Final, considered by many to outshine the Championship Cup Final at Wembley.

It should be one of the most exciting matches of the year, for it is based on the "Top Four" principle, in which Final honours are fought for among the leading clubs of the season. This ensures that only the best clubs of the season play in the Final.

Man's highest structure

A TELEVISION tower, 1572 feet high, being built at Oklahoma City will be the highest structure ever made by man. It will be 100 feet higher than the aerial on the famous Empire State Building in New York.

ROUND THE TOWNS—Alan Ivimey takes a trip into Kent and visits the ancient city of . . .

ROCHESTER

FROM May 15 to June 5 the City of Rochester, centre of the second oldest diocese in the Church of England, celebrates its 1350th anniversary as the seat of a bishop. But its history goes back more than half a millennium before that, and indeed you could scarcely find a place so near the capital which is better worth a day's visit for its historic and individual interest.

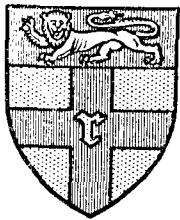
Swinging down the Dover Road from London, we find ourselves, after about 26 miles, descending the long hill to the Medway valley. There is a hint of water to the right and the grey roofs and smoke of a town of 150,000 people in front.

It is best not to be in a hurry, for as soon as we pass the twisting street of Strood and come out on to the Medway bridge we see the grey high tower of Rochester Castle on the far side. And Rochester has several times more

traffic passing through it than its narrow streets can well take.

But, in any case, it would be a pity to hurry, for the little City of Rochester is a living picture of how a town grows through nearly 2000 years.

It is really quite a small, intimate sort of place. The impression of a big town that we get when coming down that hill is due to the adjoining masses of Chatham and Gillingham which have grown up, like sturdy great-grandchildren round the skirts of their forbear, on account of the nearby dockyards. But Rochester itself is still the country town it has always been.



Rochester's coat of arms

It is a place where ruddy-faced farmers eat huge lunches on a Tuesday (Market Day). Its High Street is short enough and narrow enough to be confidential and a great clock looks out over it, thrust out on the end of a big beam with a gilded bracket, from the Old Corn Exchange.

This clock, which now runs by electricity but has its original works preserved, was the gift of Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell, whose name was described by

Left, Watts's 'Charity House' and, below, the Castle overlooking the Medway

Robert Louis Stevenson as "a mouthful of quaint and sounding syllables." His ships assisted at the taking of Gibraltar and, when ashore, he sat at Westminster as M.P. for Rochester.

So it is very suitable that the Guildhall, a few doors away, to which the Admiral presented its fine plastered and moulded ceiling, should have a handsome copper weather-vane, four feet six inches long, in the shape of a full rigged ship. It has 26 guns on its main deck.

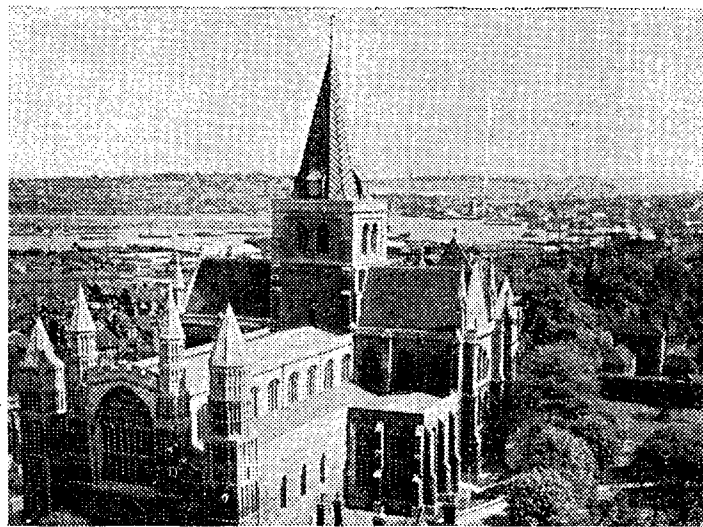
A LITTLE farther east is the cross-roads and Northgate, running down to where one of the guarded entrances to the original Roman station looked out over marshes to the Medway. On the south side of High Street, here, is the entrance to the Cathedral precinct with its own Norman gateway called College Gate. But most people know it as Jasper's House.

And here we come to one of the main characteristics of this place. It is the only one I know where you see plaques on buildings stating that entirely fictional characters "lived" there. The little wooden room built on top of College Gate, for instance, is the scene Charles Dickens chose for the murder of Edwin Drood.

Dickens's father was employed at Chatham Dockyard and Charles, as a boy, did a lot of exploring in these streets. And he put them into his novels, especially *Great Expectations* and *Pickwick Papers*. And he must have been very fond of the place, for when he was a wealthy and famous man he bought a house up above Strood there on Gad's Hill. It is still to be seen and is used as a girls' school.

So in the High Street and elsewhere you can see just where Mr. Sapsea and Miss Havisham, and Rosa Bud and Uncle Pumblechook walked and talked. And at The Bull they even show you Mr. Pickwick's bedroom. People come from all over the world just to see these things, such is the wonderful spell Charles Dickens still casts.

Some very interesting photographs of him and his family can be seen in the museum at Eastgate House.



Rochester Cathedral and the River Medway from the Castle keep; and right: The great clock with a gilded bracket on the Old Corn Exchange

THERE are many other things to see and think about in High Street but I have no space for them just now and am going to halt at College Gate. For here we are in the heart of the town.

Here is the entrance to the Cathedral and Priory. The roadway you follow, up Boley Hill, is one of the four cross-roads typical of a Roman station while, of course, High Street is really a 500-yard portion of Watling Street, the legions' road from Dover to London.

Six centuries after the Romans left Britain, William the Conqueror gave this strategic point, defending the crossing of the Medway, to one of those warlike bishops who flourished during the Middle Ages. He was Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, where the famous "tapestry" was made, and his task was to strengthen Rochester as an aid to holding down the country. And he successfully subdued a rising of the Kentish Saxons.

His successor, Bishop Gundulf, rebuilt the town walls (the Norman work can still be seen superimposed on the Roman foundations) and built a new cathedral, partly on the site of the Saxon one. He also founded the Priory, three of whose gates are still standing. Overlooking all is the huge square tower of the Castle keep, built about 1126. And by that date Rochester was already over 1000 years old.

The Castle has a fine lawn in

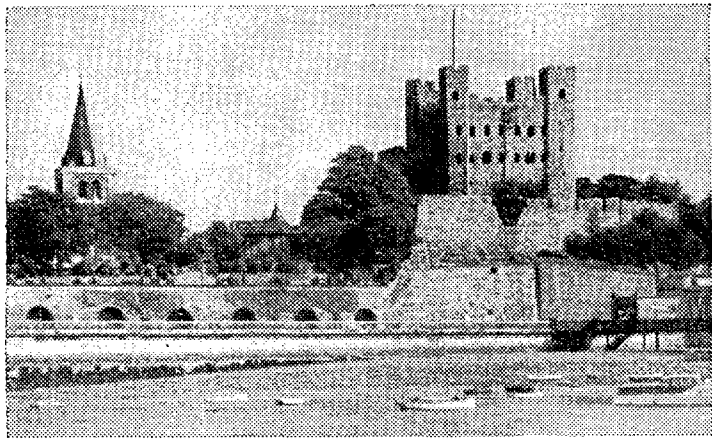
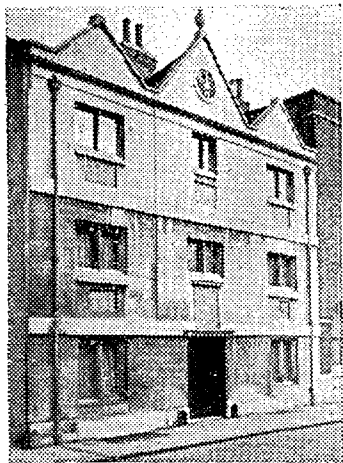
front, an ideal setting for a pageant, and the entrance from the Esplanade along the river has been cut through what was once the Water Gate. A secret passage used to run down to a little arch on the foreshore so that provisions could be landed at night in time of siege.

This great fortress has been attacked a number of times, but far more damage was done in the 16th century when the place was sold to a firm of stonemasons. They broke up and carried away all they could easily get at, but the main fabric was too tough for them.

THE Keep today is like a huge stone box divided by a partition, and with the lid off. This appearance is due to the fact that the great beams which stretched from wall to wall and carried the floors of the various storeys (we can see the holes in the masonry which held their ends) were sold long ago and have never been replaced.

At last, when we have climbed and puffed our way right to the top we find ourselves 120 feet from the ground. There are holes in the battlements through which stout joists could be thrust in an attack to hold a wooden fighting platform all round the outside. From this, stones and molten lead and anything else handy could be dropped on the attackers. And what a view there is.

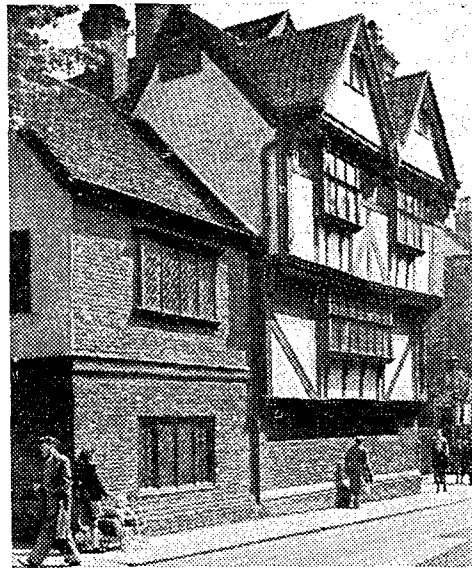
We think of that June day in 1666 when the Dutch fleet sailed up the Medway, burned Chatham dockyard and some of our finest ships; or during the air raids of the last war. And then we lift our eyes to the surrounding hills, and the old unhappy far-off things have faded again and there is Rochester, with the traffic squeezing itself out of High Street to cross the Medway, as it has been doing these 2000 years.



College Gate in the High Street



Mr. Sapsea's House



16th-century Eastgate House

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars • London • EC4
MAY 8 1954

MUSEUM TROUBLE

THE suggestion has been made that young people—say, senior schoolboys and girls, or others studying for degrees, and who have suitable qualifications—might help as volunteers in the cataloguing at the British Museum.

They would be doing work of prime national importance, for the Museum staff has not been able to cope with the work. In the great library alone there are 70,000 books waiting to be catalogued. Valuable specimens are deteriorating for want of attention.

The Government is to afford some help by making an eleven per cent increase in its financial provision for our splendid museum collections. But it is doubtful whether this alone will meet the need.

THEY NEVER QUAIL

SOME of the most memorable rescues by British lifeboatmen are told in the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's recent publication, *The Story of the Lifeboat 1954*.

The booklet also tells us that the cost of maintaining this entirely voluntary service is some £750,000 a year.

It is a figure before which the thousands who support the R.N.L.I. will not flinch, any more than the men in the boats are daunted by stormy seas. Their spirit was never better described than in Sir Winston Churchill's words about a lifeboat:

"It drives on with a mercy which does not quail in the presence of death, it drives on as a proof, a symbol, a testimony that man is created in the image of God, and that valour and virtue have not perished in the British race."



Under the Editor's Table

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO
KNOW

Where the man
who took the flat
took it to

Telephone operators are told not to give way to irritation. Even if there is a call for it.

The manager of a group of hotels came to this country as a waiter 43 years ago. Shows what you can achieve if you wait long enough.

THE RIGHT WAY TO RIDE

TWO girl cyclists of St. Albans had no idea that a policeman was keeping a careful watch on them as they pedalled around the streets of their home town. For it is part of a policeman's job to watch without attracting attention.

After observing them closely for six weeks, he decided that they were the two the police wanted.

But Rosemarie Thurban, aged 16, and Sheila Bury, 15, were wanted because for six weeks they had ridden their bicycles carefully and courteously at all times; always giving the right signals, and always being helpful at pedestrian crossings—especially to old people and small children.

Rosemarie and Sheila have been given certificates signed by the Mayor of St. Albans as a reward for their courtesy.

Think on These Things

A WEALTHY Shunammite woman recognised a holy man when Elisha regularly passed by her door (2 Kings 4: 9-37) and he recognised her worthiness.

With kindly hospitality she built a chamber in the wall of her home and furnished it to receive the prophet as an honoured guest.

When the Shunammite lady's little son died she sought his help, though it involved a long journey from Shunem to Carmel.

It was not considered an advantageous time to seek the help of a prophet. Her husband asked: "Wherefore wilt thou go to him today? It is neither new moon nor sabbath." For such occasions were considered the favourable ones for interviewing a prophet. Nevertheless Elisha, moved by the woman's story, returned home with her and brought her son back to life.

Servants of God do not limit their love for people to certain times and occasions. F. P.

LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE

And others' follies teach us not, Nor much their wisdom teaches; And most of sterling worth is what

Our own experience preaches.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

A postwoman in Surrey is retiring after 37 years. She will miss the post.

A correspondent thinks that fat people are egotistical. Too full of themselves.

Weather experts use terms not always easily understood by TV listeners. But easier to understand than the weather.

Bob-a-job Boy Scouts were forbidden to do hoothblackening. And they thought they would shine at it.

The Editor's Table

Elderly pennies

THERE have been letters in *The Times* lately from folk who collect old Victorian coins. The correspondence was started by a gentleman who was lyrical about an 1861 penny he had received in his change. It seemed to him to "stand bravely forth as probably the only survivor in circulation of the coins of its time."

But he was soon answered by other collectors, one claiming an 1844 half-farthing, and a penny of 1853.

It is likely that there are young collectors who could do even better than the adult enthusiasts. Collecting Victorian pennies and halfpennies is, as one of the letter-writers observes, "an amusing and interesting little hobby which costs nothing." But there could be one snag. Having amassed a pile of these veterans you might run short of cash and—well, then would be the moment to test whether you had the true collectors' spirit or not.

Borrowed bouquet



Miss Karen Greer recently visited Chessington Zoo, Surrey, and Comet was asked to present her with a bouquet. But it seems that he forgot his good manners on this occasion

Thirty Years Ago

From the *Children's Newspaper*, May 10, 1924

Do flowers dislike music? This may seem a stupid question, but it is by no means so, for experiments have shown that certain plants deliberately turn away from bands that are playing loud music.

Cyclamens and carnations seem particularly sensitive to continued sounds, and develop a distinct tendency to lean away from the direction from which the music comes. The Easter lily, also, is considerably affected, and shows a similar tendency.

In one case, during the experiments, where the plants named were used as floral decorations close to a jazz band constantly playing dance music, the cyclamens and carnations are said to have been affected to an astonishing degree.

JUST AN IDEA

As Sir John Vanbrugh wrote: Good manners and soft words have brought many a difficult thing to pass.

MORE NURSES NEEDED

DR. M. G. CANDAU, Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), has recently spoken of the world's great need for more and yet more nurses. While some of the more highly developed countries claim one nurse to every 300 people, in some backward territories there is only one nurse to every 100,000 of the population.

Today, the organisation is trying to overcome this shortage of nurses by sending out its experts to under-developed countries where they train the local inhabitants to become skilled nurses.

"The nurse of today, whether at the bedside, in the operating theatre, in the clinic, the school or the home, is the friend and counsellor of all, and a welcome health teacher," says Dr. Candau.

Lesson for Hutton

A TRIBUTE to Len Hutton's leadership of the M.C.C. cricket team was paid by the manager, Mr. C. H. Palmer, when they returned from the West Indies. He said that great credit for their success was due in particular to the captain.

During the enthusiastic welcome, Len said that the young players on the tour had gained a tremendous amount of experience.

Then he went home to Pudsey in Yorkshire where a party of young players proceeded to give him a cricket lesson! They were his son John and other small boys, who had made a pitch on some rough ground. The wicket was a piece of tin on a stone, and the bowler's end was indicated by a boy's cap.

But they had the sense not to let the great Len bat. They made him bowl—and hit him all over the ground.

ANOTHER DAY

Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day. Begin it serenely, and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense.

R. W. Emerson

The Children's Newspaper, May 8, 1954

THEY SAY . . .

BRITAIN's interests and those of Europe and world peace are best served not by making attacks from the soapbox on what were often wrongly thought to be trends of U.S. policy, but by promoting consultation and better understanding of British and American points of view.

Sir Hartley Shawcross, Q.C., M.P.

EVERY victory against the sins of hatred, greed, and fear in our lives is a victory over the causes which lead to war.

The Archbishop of York

WHAT is needed is a little period of silence, a little lockjaw.

Mr. Adlai Stevenson

SOMETIMES children have three vocabularies; for the school, home, and the street.

A former headmistress

KING GEORGE V read the Bible daily and found great help in its pages. Queen Mary, too, read the Bible very regularly and taught me to respect and love its teaching when I was a very little girl.

The Princess Royal

YOU get nearly all you want in this world by kindness.

Lord Justice Singleton

Out and About

LARGE white butterflies flitter in the sunlight in the market-garden. They came from the caterpillars which did so much damage last summer to the cabbages. It is always the caterpillars, not the butterflies or moths, which do damage.

The caterpillar eats enough to sustain the flying creature which develops from its pupa, and many kinds of moths and butterflies have neither mouth nor stomach, though others can sip nectar from flowers.

They all lay eggs, however, which will become caterpillars, and they lay them where the right food is handy for the larva. These graceful white butterflies in the vegetable garden have been laying eggs on the cabbage leaves, which the young caterpillars will eat. The small tortoiseshell chooses nettles for the same reason.

The handsome swallow-tail, which will not be about for another week or two, lays eggs on leaves of marsh parsley, wild carrot, and other plants.

C. D. D.



OUR HOMELAND

A quiet mooring by the mill at West Somerton, Norfolk

WINGS OVER THE BROADS

ANYBODY who has spent a holiday on the Norfolk Broads will be interested in the film *Conflict of Wings*, and it will probably attract many people there for holidays this year. The scenery is so beautifully photographed in colour that one can almost feel the fresh air and scent the reeds and river.

The story is about the way the people of a Norfolk village combine to defeat an attempt to use a little "island" in the Broads as a target for R.A.F. rocket-firing practice.

The villagers are headed by a big tough man named Harry Tilney (Niall MacGinnis), and we are on their side in their fight to keep the "island" as an unofficial bird-sanctuary.

But there are no real "villains" in the film; everybody has the best of intentions. The R.A.F. jet-fighter squadron, whose base is nearby, must have a target for their training at once. The trouble is that somebody or other was too hasty in choosing that particular piece of land.

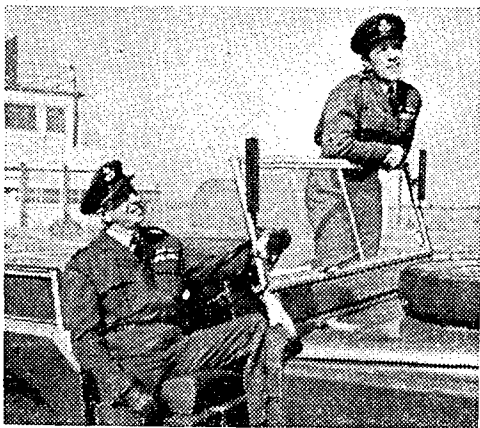
We get to know all the village characters, and some of the R.A.F. men too. John Gregson is a ground-staff corporal whose friendly squadron-leader (Kieron Moore) sometimes takes him for a flight, and he is also well liked by the people of the village. He is a man with a foot in both camps—always a very difficult position.

The film's great scene is at the end when, all other efforts to stop them having failed, the jet planes set out to fire at the "island." All the local people hurry to the place in every possible kind of boat, so that when the airmen see them they will hold their fire.

This is a very exciting and well-done scene—although perhaps we do wonder whether all the villagers would really have felt so strongly about keeping the island for a bird-sanctuary. Notice how the director of the film works up

the excitement by switching back and forth between the hurrying villagers and the approaching planes.

This is the scene with the most action and suspense, but all the film is enjoyable in its own way. It has a special appeal for bird-watchers (though they will notice mistakes), and aircraft enthusiasts, and people who know the Broads.



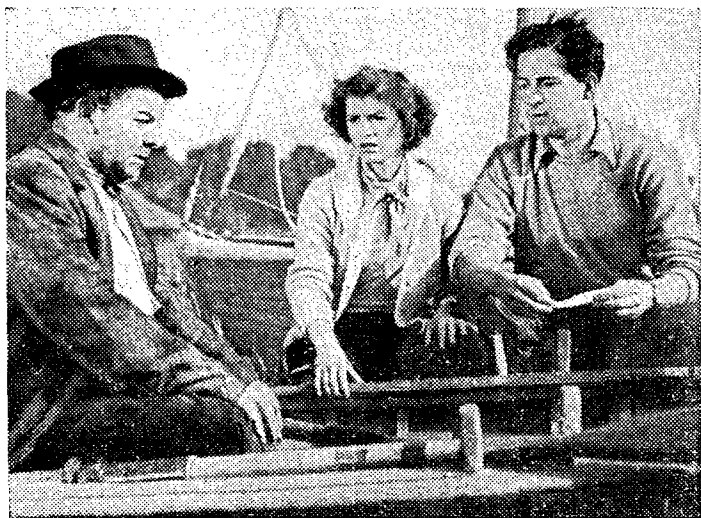
Wing Commander Rogers (Russell Napier) and Parsons (Kieron Moore) watch visiting Swift jet fighters circle the aerodrome

THREE years ago there was a film called *Where No Vultures Fly*, which was about the way a game warden looked after the animals in the National Parks in Africa. Now there is a sequel, *West of Zanzibar*, which has the same game-warden hero, Bob Payton (Anthony Steel). Sheila Sim plays his wife, and young William Simons their son.

This time Payton's problem is not so much animals as men—the Galana tribe, which is having trouble with its young warriors. They can get easy money for ivory which they sell illegally, and they are tempted to spend it among the bright lights of Mombasa.

The old chief (Edric Connor) is very sad and worried, and the game warden tries to help him by catching the principal villain responsible for buying the illegal ivory.

The way he does this makes an exciting story, and the coloured pictures of Africa—we see plenty of animals again—and of the Arab dhows that sail with the smuggled ivory to Zanzibar, are splendid.



Soapy the eel-catcher (Bartlett Mullins), Sally (Muriel Pavlow), and Bill Morris (John Gregson)—a scene from *Conflict of Wings*

On the Royal Route

THROUGH THE MEDITERRANEAN

THIS week the cheerful George Cross Island of Malta, 600 miles across the Mediterranean from Tobruk, occupies the programme of the Royal Tour.

Malta, which is 17½ miles long and about eight at its greatest width, is the largest of a group of three islands. Its near neighbour, Gozo, is nine miles by about four-and-a-quarter, and between the two is tiny Comino, as long as it is broad—about a mile-and-a-quarter.

Malta's story begins with Phoenician colonisation some 1500 years B.C. Then came Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Arabs, and, in 1530, the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who built Valetta, the capital, and withstood a ruthless siege by the Turks.

ISLAND FORTRESS

The French captured the island in 1798, but the islanders successfully revolted against the invaders. British troops came to their assistance and afterwards, at the request of her citizens, Malta became a part of the British Empire.

Over 140 years later, in the Second World War, this island fortress played a vital part in the Allies' victory in North Africa as a base for attacking the enemy's supply ships crossing the Mediterranean. The Germans and Italians lost over 600 aircraft in trying to batter the sea-girt stronghold into submission.

The Island was given the George Cross for its heroic resistance, which had cost the lives of about 1500 citizens. Over 35,000 buildings were destroyed or damaged.

(A number of pilgrims from Britain went to the island recently in anticipation of the Queen's unveiling of the R.A.F. Memorial to 2300 Commonwealth airmen who lost their lives in the area during the war, and have no known grave.)

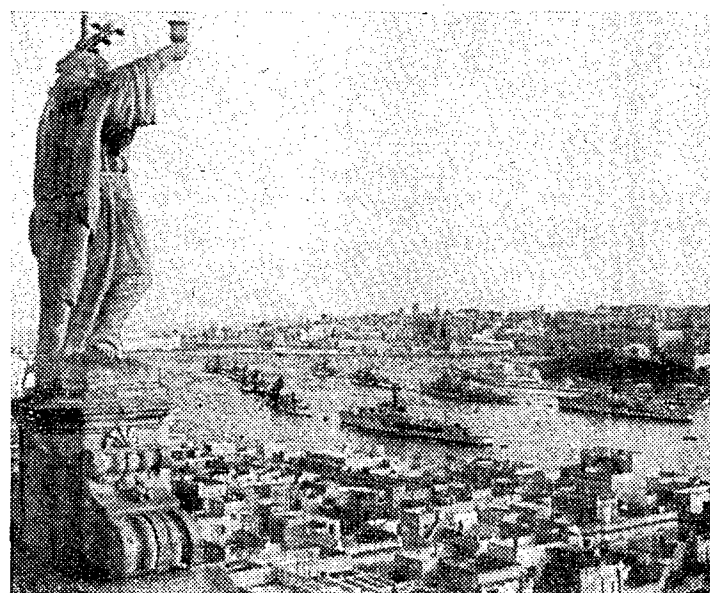
MINIATURE NATION

Today the Maltese Islands have a population of some 316,000 friendly folk, a number of whom are employed in the busy dockyard. For little Malta is still a place of great importance to the Commonwealth. As headquarters of the British Mediterranean Fleet, it has one of the finest natural anchorages in the world in the Grand Harbour at Valetta. The island has also become a major refuelling place for airlines.

Though small and overcrowded, sunny Malta is closely cultivated. The tiny "pocket-handkerchief" fields lie behind terrace-like tiers of walls, which save the soil from being washed into the sea.

The Maltese, a miniature nation of farmers, fishermen, shopkeepers, and artificers, have their own Government, in which the Prime Minister is Dr. Borg Olivier. The Governor, who is responsible for defence, is Sir Gerald Creasy.

No official ceremonies are planned for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on May 5 and 6, but after leaving Malta on May 7 the Royal Yacht *Britannia* will stop at the neighbouring island of Gozo, where the Queen will unveil the war memorial in the town of Victoria.



Italian and British warships anchored in Sliema Creek, Malta



A view of The Rock of Gibraltar taken from the causeway road leading from the Spanish mainland

ON May 10 the Queen and her husband are due at another important speck on the map, Gibraltar.

"Gib" seems to have been intended by nature to be a mighty citadel.

The precipitous peninsula, with the houses of the town at its feet and clinging to its slopes, is only three miles long, and has an average width of three-quarters-of-a mile. The entrance to the Mediterranean from the Atlantic, which it guards, is only nine miles wide.

First used as a fort by the Saracen leader Tarik in A.D. 711, it was taken from the Moors by the Spaniards in 1462, and the British gained possession of it in 1704. Its enormous strength was demonstrated in the great siege of 1779 to 1783, which ended after 40,000 French and Spanish troops had been repulsed by 7000 British.

During the Second World War the Rock stood unassailed, a naval base of tremendous importance for the Allied cause.

This fortress town's 23,232 people, mainly of Spanish and Italian descent, work for the Services or at the port, where many ships call for fuel.

The community is ruled by the Governor, who is assisted by an Executive Council and a Legislative Council, inaugurated by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1950.

When the Queen arrives there will be a presentation of the symbolic Key of the Fortress. Afterwards she will review the troops, and among other events is to be a display by schoolchildren. Her Majesty and the Duke will see the engineering wonders of the underground installations, in the heart of the Rock. On top, the rock apes, the only wild monkeys in Europe, will doubtless be "on parade" for titbits.

Next day, May 11, the Royal travellers' world-wide round of visits comes to an end, and they will leave in the *Britannia* for London, where they are due on May 15.

BRINGING HEALTH ON AN ELEPHANT'S BACK

For the past three years an anti-malaria campaign has been going forward in the Himalayan Terai. This is an area of dense forests and jungle, where the roads are impassable for motor traffic during the monsoon and, in certain parts of the region, during the dry season also.

"During the rainy season the villages situated far away from metalled roads are inaccessible except by using elephants on the

plains and horses in the hills," writes the World Health Organisation team leader who has been in charge of the operation. "During the monsoon the bullock-cart roads in the plains disappear and, going on elephant-back, one has to follow certain tracks through the paddy fields."

Under these difficult circumstances, no fewer than 292,760 people living in 2650 villages have been inoculated against malaria.

THEIR OWN THEATRE

Three eleven-year-olds, a girl and two boys, are running their own puppet theatre in Romford, Essex. Besides skilfully manipulating the dolls they write their own sketches.

Moving spirit behind the enterprise of the Rainbow Puppet Theatre is Cherry Ashburnham. She was given her first puppet two years ago, taught herself how to manipulate the strings and has passed on the knowledge to her friends Roger Stevens and Douglas Scott. Then Cherry's father got interested and built his daughter a portable theatre complete with lighting plant.

A year ago the children put on their first show—in the living room at Cherry's home, in aid of the Church of England Children's Society. So many children wanted to come that this year there will be two performances to aid the same cause.

Recently the Rainbow Puppet Theatre became more ambitious and had their first "outside job" when they entertained a Townswomen's Guild Birthday Party. The show was a great success. Cherry's father stood by to change records for the music and her mother announced the different items.

Cherry's ambition, not surprisingly, is to own and run a puppet theatre when she grows up.

TEST FOR ROSES

Over 200 new varieties of roses have been sent to England from Canada, the U.S.A., Belgium, Holland, France, and Germany. They have been planted in the National Rose Society's trial ground at St. Albans, and if at the end of two years they are considered successful, their originators will receive the Society's Certificate of Merit.

Among those at the trial ground is a rose that is claimed as "blue." It is the German rambler, Veilchenblau, with bluish-purple blooms

Steps to Sporting Fame



Happy is the sportsman who can take the field all the year round. Such a sportsman is Douglas Insole, captain of Essex, famed for the bright cricket largely inspired by him.



Educated at the Sir George Monoux Grammar School, Walthamstow, Douglas is a Londoner, born at Clapton on April 18, 1926. He plays Soccer for Corinthian-Casuals and numbers several good cricketers among his Soccer colleagues.



At Cambridge, he was awarded blues for both Cricket and Soccer, as was his close friend, Trevor Bailey. Both are all-rounders. Insole was seen at his delightful best when he scored 219 not out against Yorkshire in 1949.



Insole was originally a wicket-keeper and occupied that position in the first of his three Varsity matches, in 1947. He became Essex captain in 1950, and played for England when the West Indies were in this country in the same year.

BOYS BUILD A CHAPEL

For the 500 boys of the County Grammar School at Lewes, Sussex, this term will mark an important stage in a great adventure. For many of them will be busy building their own school chapel.

Ever since the war the boys have been working hard to raise money for the Chapel through carol-singing, concerts, mock auctions in the classroom, and in other ways. In eight years they have collected £10,000 towards this ambitious scheme which is to provide not only their place of worship but also their war memorial.

Now a sub-committee of the East Sussex Education Committee have given the "go ahead" signal, stating that a building licence can be awarded and that work may begin.

The boys will dig the foundations on the borders of the school playing fields. Pupils of the technical section will construct not only parts of the walls but the furniture for the interior as well. But outside contractors will build the roof.

What do the boys think of this adventure? "There's nothing to beat this 'learning by doing,'" they say.

STAMP LIGHTLY

Often one hears ardent stamp collectors complaining about what they regard as an unnecessarily severe defacement of a stamp by the Post Office cancellation.

The Post Office in this country, while sympathetic, cannot guarantee to treat every choice specimen with care. The main task is to ensure that a stamp cannot be used again.

An idea comes from Austria, however, where the Post Office are issuing a coloured label, similar to an air-mail label, which, translated, says: "This is philatelic mail—please cancel lightly and neatly." And it is likely to be a boon to collectors wishing to secure used covers in a reasonably good condition.

BUTTERFLY WATCHERS ON THE ALERT

ALONG the south and south-west coasts of Britain the annual "butterfly watch" has begun. There are many amateur entomologists who record each year, on printed cards, the arrival from across the Channel of migratory butterflies and moths. These records are sent to the Insect Immigration Committee at the Rothamsted Experimental Station.

At night, in woods and gardens all over the country, a score or more recorders are setting their mercury-vapour lamp moth-traps, which catch the migratory moths by attracting them from a wide area.

The lamps used are of 80 or 125 watts. If there is any chance of this bright light attracting too much public notice, a special black glass cover is fitted which emits only the ultra-violet light, invisible to man but still seen by the moths. The full light, without the cover, will attract 75 per cent of all moths within 100 feet. With the cover, 35 per cent are attracted.

Hastings and parts of the Kent and Dorset coasts are favoured recording places because of the many rarities which visit these

Report on Wild Life by the CN Naturalist

southern counties from the Continent. A special look-out is also being kept on the Royal Sovereign lighthouse in the Channel, off the Sussex coast.

THE Botanical Society of the British Isles has chosen Southport for its Whitsuntide field-meeting this year. Here the plant experts will visit the sand-dunes near the coast to the south of the town, between Ainsdale and Formby, because of the rich flora which grows there.

Uncommon wild flowers they expect to find at this time of the year include the large-flowered duneland variety of dog-violet, the bog-bean, and sand-spurge. But more interesting will be the study of the life of duneland flora.

Members will see how the binding of the wind-blown sandhills by marram-grass enables other plants to flourish on the inner dunes. These plants include grass-of-parnassus, round-leaved wintergreen, numerous rare orchids, and ferns, such as adders' tongues.

A NEW British fish, the bitterling, native to the rivers of Central Europe, has been found in several waters in Lancashire. It is now known to have been introduced many years ago.

It is a small, deep-bodied fish, coloured with a blue line on the side of the male, and it lays its eggs inside pond-mussels, where they hatch. Several specimens collected from ponds and old canals have been kept in captivity by local aquarists, and the records have been passed on to the British Museum authorities.

IN the Government's new forests in North Wales the blackcock, a handsome gamebird which has become much scarcer in its previous haunts in Scotland and England, is steadily increasing. In fact, it is now fairly well established in parts of Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire. The female is called a greyhen, but she is mostly brownish and looks very much like the female red grouse.

Another name for this bird is blackgame. The handsome male is notable for his lyre-shaped tail displayed when courting. E. H.

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO—Alexandre Dumas' famous story told in pictures (12)



Maximilian, grief-stricken at the loss of Valentine, arrived at Monte Cristo Island as agreed. Edmond, in his sumptuously furnished grotto, talked long with the young man, who said he no longer wished to live without Valentine. He asked his mysterious friend the "Count," from his deep knowledge of strange drugs, to give him the means of an easy death. Edmond gave him a powder which he swallowed.



To Maximilian everything began to look unreal. Then a door opened and his sweetheart appeared! It was, in fact, Valentine herself. Edmond, to save her from the ruthless cunning of her stepmother, had given her a drug which induced a death-like trance. Afterwards he had rescued her from the family vault and, as she still refused to denounce her stepmother, had sent her to the Island with Haidee, the Greek girl.



The powder Maximilian had swallowed was not, of course, fatal, but merely a harmless narcotic. He soon recovered from its effects, realised that he was not going to die, and that this really was Valentine he held in his arms. Their friend explained everything. He had not told Maximilian that Valentine was alive because he had wanted to make sure that the young man really was in love with her.



Edmond's last act of retribution concerned Danglars, who had run away with money belonging to Paris charities. Edmond arranged for him to be caught by brigands and taken to catacombs near Rome. There he visited him. "The Count of Monte Cristo!" cried Danglars. "No," said Edmond, "I am he upon whom you trampled that you might rise to fortune. I am Edmond Dantès!"

Edmond makes a settlement with his last enemy—and with his friends. See next week's final instalment

The Children's Newspaper, May 8, 1954

ACCORDING TO JENNINGS

By Anthony Buckeridge

Jennings accidentally spoils the wet paint in the swimming bath when the building is out of bounds. Darbishire agrees to make good the damage while the staff are at supper. Mr. Wilkins is already suspicious of the boys' behaviour, and is completely baffled when he finds them wearing swimming flippers and boxing gloves in the dormitory.

16. Decorations in the dark

MR. WILKINS stormed his way out of the dormitory and on to the landing, his mind reeling with the senselessness of it all. There seemed no logical explanation for such preposterous behaviour, unless... Unless it was all part of the elaborate leg-pull which he had first suspected the previous week! He halted in mid-stride, trying to fit together the pieces of the puzzle.

First, there had been the extremely courteous conduct and the tender concern for his health; then some mystery about poking heads into cupboards; and now this ridiculous exploit which involved retiring to rest in frogs' feet and boxing gloves. What did it all mean?

Mr. Wilkins brooded over the riddle for some moments, and finally gave it up in despair. He felt—as Darbishire had felt some five minutes earlier—that fate was not playing the game in singling

him out for more than his fair share of trouble.

"Why do these fantastic things always have to happen when I'm on duty," he asked himself bitterly.

It was almost dark when Darbishire slipped out of bed, and tiptoed down the back stairs on his way to make good the damaged paintwork in the swimming bath. He was feeling extremely nervous, for such dangerous missions were not at all to his liking; but he gritted his teeth and pressed on, determined not to fail in the task that lay before him.

Much to his surprise, everything went far more smoothly than he had dared to hope. He met no one on the staircase, though when he reached the ground floor a light shining from underneath the dining-hall door gave him an uncomfortable ten seconds as he crept past, and out through the side door leading to the quad.

Done in four minutes

When he reached the tool-shed he found the tins of paint, exactly as Jennings had described, and he lost no time in dipping a brush into the nearest tin and then scurrying round the corner into the swimming bath.

There was not enough light for him to see his handiwork with an appraising eye, but he felt sure that a mixture of memory and guesswork would serve his purpose well enough.

Four minutes later he was back in the dormitory, where Jennings was waiting to hear details of the operation.

"How did you get on?" Jennings asked anxiously.

"Oh, famously, thanks," Darbishire burred, in a warm glow of triumph and relief. "It was quite easy; in fact, I couldn't help laughing on my way back, as I passed the dining-hall."

"Golly! That was risky. They might have heard you."

"Laughing to myself, I mean. To think Old Wilkie was inside and didn't know I was creeping past the door. Mind you, I had to feel my way about and work from memory as you told me, but I'm pretty sure I made a decent job of it."

"We'll beetle downstairs first thing tomorrow and have a look," Jennings decided.

Tense with excitement

They were awake and dressed some minutes before the rising bell sounded the next morning. Tense with nervous excitement, they hurried downstairs and into the swimming bath.

"Funny how it turned out easier than I'd expected," Darbishire prattled, as Jennings gingerly opened the cubicle door. "Actually it was a wizard sight... Glumph!"

He broke off with a gulp of amazement, and stood staring at

the cubicle wall with a look of horror in his mild blue eyes... For all across the area of his handiwork, the white wall was daubed with a layer of bright green paint.

"Fossilised fish-hooks! Whatever have you done?" cried Jennings, aghast.

The answer was only too obvious. "I—I must have dipped the brush in the wrong tin," Darbishire quavered miserably. "There were two tins together, you see, and..."

"Yes, but surely you could have seen which was which when you splashed it on the wall?"

Outburst

"No, I couldn't. I hadn't got my glasses; and anyway, it was too dark to see properly."

"Don't make feeble excuses! If it was dark, anyway, I can't see what you wanted your glasses for," Jennings was furious at the disastrous outcome of his plan. "Honestly, Darbi, you must be as thick-skulled as a crash-helmet. I've met some batwitted clodpols in my time, but I reckon you win the silver challenge cup for adde-pated beetle-headedness against all comers!"

And, indeed, there was some cause for Jennings' outburst, for the white paint had been so generously re-touched with green that it looked fifty times worse than the smears and smudges which they had hoped to conceal. There was no possibility now, he pointed out, that such a grave error would go undetected, for Robinson was bound to notice it as soon as he came in to start work.

"There's only one thing to do," Jennings decided at length. "We'll have to go and find Old Robbo and ask him to put it right for us."

"But he always reports things like that; he's never on our side," Darbishire objected with some truth; for the odd-job man had little sympathy with boys who wasted his time and impeded his work.

"Yes, I know, but it's our only chance. Perhaps if we're specially decent to him he may see things in a different light," Jennings observed.

Moody Robinson

Darbishire uttered a little moan. "Don't talk to me about seeing things in different lights," he said bitterly. "If only there had been more light yesterday evening we shouldn't be seeing things so differently now."

He picked up the paint-brush which he had absent-mindedly left overnight on the coconut matting beside the bath; then he followed Jennings out of the building in search of the odd-job man.

They found Robinson in the tool-shed, and to their dismay they sensed that his mood was surly.

"Good morning, Robinson," said Jennings politely.

"It's not a good morning at all," grumbled the disconsolate odd-jobber. "All that second coat waiting to be put on the swimming bath, and now I can't even get started."

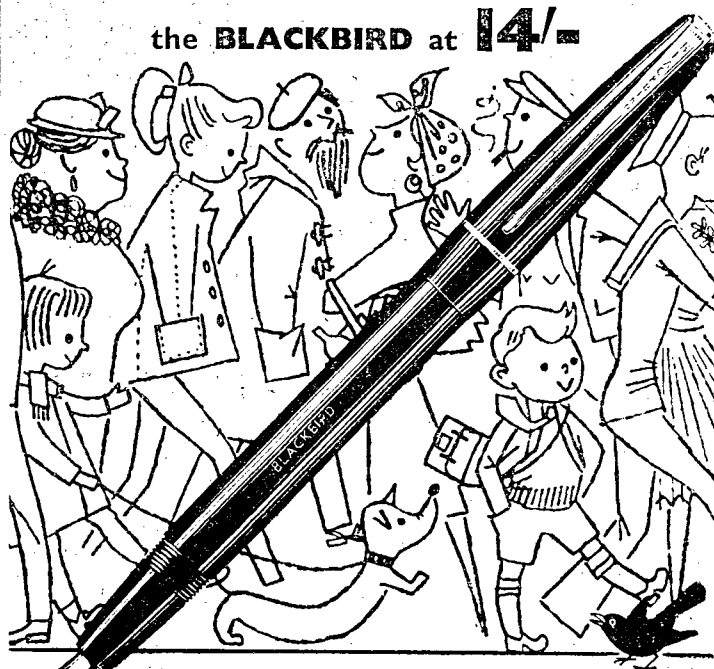
"Why not?"

"Lost me brush—that's why not."

Continued on page 10

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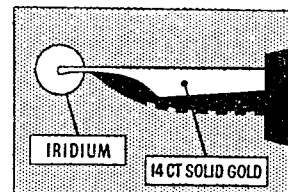
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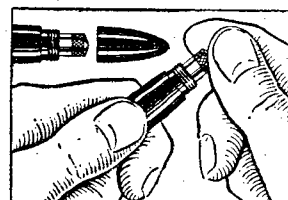
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EVANS

SPORTS SHORTS

THE first of the season's County Championship matches will be playing this coming weekend. At the same time, many of the leading Football League clubs are off on summer tours, including Chelsea, who are playing a number of matches in Canada and the U.S.

TOM FINNEY, brilliant captain of Preston North End, and winner of over 50 English International caps, was recently elected 1954 Footballer of the Year.



Tom Finney

THE Atkins family of Eltham must be proud of their boxing prowess. Mr. Harry Atkins was formerly a professional, and now his four sons are following in his footsteps. Henry was a Civil Service champion in 1950; Terry won an A.B.A. junior title in 1952; and last month 12-year-old Richard won the 5 stone 10 pound Junior Schools National Championship. Nine-year-old Larry, the youngest brother, is also determined to win a schools title.

IRELAND won the British Amateur International Championship and became the first holders of a solid silver trophy presented by the Welsh Football Association.

IN the recent Carris Trophy competition there was a record entry of over 150 boy golfers from all over the world. The winner was 16-year-old Keith Warren, of Coombe Hill, a protégé of Richard Burton, one of Britain's greatest professional golfers.

THE World Table Tennis Championships of 1955 will be staged at Utrecht in Holland. Russia may compete in the championships for the first time.

PETER WELLS, former English high jump champion who represented this country in the 1950 Empire Games in Auckland, will be competing in the forthcoming Games in Vancouver. This time he will be a member of the New Zealand team, for he settled there after the 1950 Games.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL has given a silver cup to the Forest Divisional Football Association for annual competition among school football teams in the Epping Forest (Essex) area.

THE Soccer schoolboys of Scotland and England meet next Saturday in Edinburgh. The teams have already met at Wembley, where England won by the only goal scored.

IT may be surprising to learn that cricket has been played in Berlin for half a century and that there is a German cricket league. This season 16 teams will play in the league, all eager to win a new championship trophy—a bat from Lord's. This bat, presented by General Oliver, the British Commandant, bears the signatures of the 1953 Australian and the 1952 Indian Test teams, and the Lancashire, Middlesex, and Warwickshire county teams.

THE badges and medals struck to commemorate the Soccer international between Hungary and England on May 23 are to depict the British Union Jack and the Hungarian flag.

ACCORDING TO JENNINGS

Continued from page 9

It was here last night on top of this tin of paint, and now it's gone."

With a guilty start Darbshire realised that he was holding the missing article in his hand. Then he caught a look from Jennings that warned him to be silent.

"We just looked in to see you, Robinson, to ask if you would very kindly do us a favour," Jennings began.

"I'm always doing you lads favours," came the ungracious reply. "Time somebody did me one for a change."

"Of course we will," Jennings replied readily.

Robinson looked at him without enthusiasm. "And what sort of favour do you think you could do for me?"

"We could—er—well, we could try to find your brush for you."

"You'll have a job to do that. Looked everywhere I have."

"Just you leave it to us," Jennings assured him; "and if we find it, you'll do us that favour in exchange, won't you?"

"Time to talk about that when you've found it," mumbled Robinson. He moved away to resume his search in a far corner of the shed, and Jennings seized the opportunity to whisper instructions in Darbshire's ear.

"Slip it on that shelf behind the tools," he said softly. "We mustn't find it too quickly, because he won't be so keen to help us if he knows it was our fault he's lost it."

For some moments they searched in a desultory fashion, and then Jennings uttered a cry of triumph: "Why! Here it is!" he announced.

Robinson looked surprised. "That's funny; I looked all round there a few minutes ago. However did I come to miss seeing it? Sharp eyes you lads have got."

Jennings and Darbshire smiled modestly. Then Jennings said: "Well, now we've found it, you will do us that favour, won't you?"

Robinson wasn't very pleased when he heard what the favour was. But he was a man of his word, and at last he agreed to carry out his side of the bargain.

"Whew! What a relief!" sighed Jennings, as they watched the odd-jobber plodding off to start his day's work in the swimming bath. "That's got everything nicely settled at last, thank goodness."

"Huh! Don't you believe it," muttered Darbshire in worried tones. "I've still got to swim in the relay on Friday, don't forget... And what's more, I haven't practised going out of my depth, even now!"

To be continued

The Children's Newspaper, May 8, 1954

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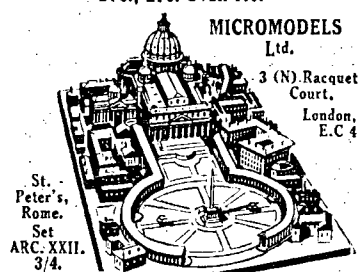
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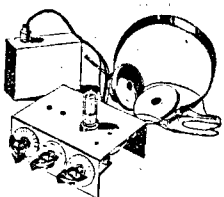
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MARS APPROACHING THE EARTH

The glory of the night sky before long will be the world of Mars. This week it rises about midnight in the south-east, but rises half an hour earlier each week, writes the C N Astronomer.

The brilliant, reddish-coloured Mars may be readily identified, for it far outshines any of the numerous bright stars in that region—and is appearing brighter as it comes nearer.

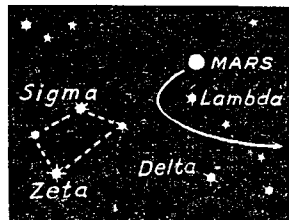
During the coming months it will be of interest to note its curious curved path between the stars of the Zodiac constellation of Sagittarius, the Archer, as shown in the star-map. The arrow indicates the course and extent Mars will appear to travel during the next two months. Actually the curve is due to perspective as the Earth and Mars draw nearer to each other.

Mars is coming nearer than it has been for 13 years and is therefore appearing much brighter. It will appear at its brightest at the end of June when it will be at its nearest—38,300,000 miles away.

Only rarely does Mars come as close as this, the reason being that it has such an elliptical orbit that its distance from the Sun varies from 128,500,000 miles when at its nearest to 154 million miles when

it is at its greatest distance.

To this difference of 26 million miles must be added the varying distance of the Earth from the Sun, which amounts to about three million miles. Since the Earth's greatest distance from the Sun will this year be on July 3 and amount to 94,500,000 miles, our Earth will therefore be almost at its nearest to Mars.



This spectacular approach to each other varies continuously because the Earth completes her journey round the Sun in

about 365½ days whereas Mars takes nearly 687 days. Mars has the much larger orbital track to cover while speeding at about 15 miles a second compared with the Earth's average of 18½ miles a second.

Thus it comes about that in this perpetual race round the Sun these two worlds never come back to the same "winning post," so to speak, but always to some other location in both time and space, and not even relative to the Sun.

The same applies to all other worlds and bodies of appreciable size in the well-ordered Solar System. Nothing is rigid yet nothing can break away; all are held by the bonds of gravity.

G. F. M.

C N Competition No. 2

5 WRIST-WATCHES AS PRIZES!

FOUNTAIN-PENS AS CONSOLATION AWARDS

HERE is the second of our new fortnightly competitions—with five splendid wrist-watches to be won by the boys and girls who send in the best entries. There will also be fountain-pens for ten runners-up.

In the illustration below we show eight famous buildings and structures, and you are simply asked to say which city or town of the world each one is in. No doubt you will recognise most of them, but to help you we have included all the correct answers in the following list:

Rome, Washington, Nottingham, New York, Berlin, Bombay, Edinburgh, Athens, Paris, Windsor, Cairo, Blackpool, San Francisco, Dover, London.

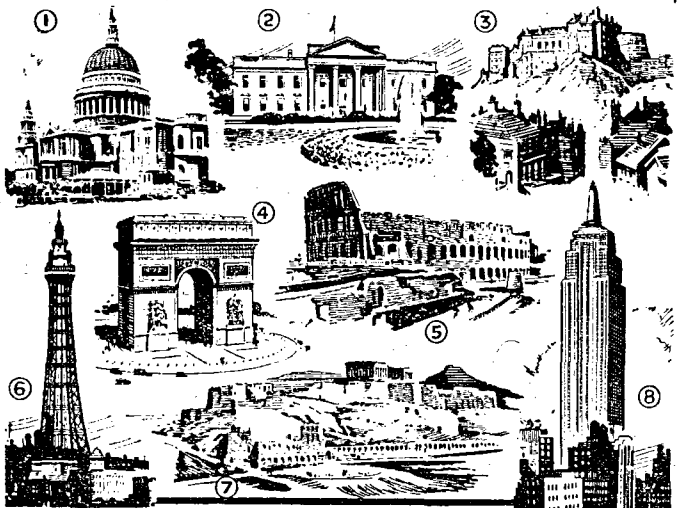
When you have decided which town can claim each building, make a neat list of your answers, with the town beside each number, on a postcard or piece of plain paper in ink or pencil. Add your name, age, and address, then ask your parent, guardian, or teacher to sign the complete entry as your own unaided work. Cut out and attach to it the Competition Token (marked C N Token) given at the foot of the back page of this issue. Post to:

C N Competition No. 2,
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.),

to arrive by Tuesday, May 18, the closing date.

The five wrist-watches will be awarded to competitors whose lists of answers are correct, or most nearly so, and the best-written according to age.

This competition is open to all readers under 17 in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands. The Editor's decision is final.



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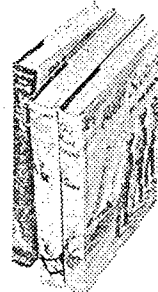
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THE BRAN TUB

SUN FLOWER

SAID a butterfly caught in a shower:

"My gay wings will soon lose their power.

They do not like the rain, I must shelter, it's plain."

So he fluttered inside a large flower.

THE HORSE CHESTNUT

THE horse chestnut is, of course, the "Conker Tree." It was brought to this country from Greece during the 17th century.

A good specimen may grow from

80 to 100 feet high. Its stout trunk is covered with rough, greyish bark of rather flaky appearance. The brown, sticky buds develop

into bright green leaves, usually cut into seven lobes. At first they droop like half-open umbrellas, but gradually stiffen and expand into a fan-like shape which may measure anything up to 18 inches across.

Horse chestnut blossom is of great beauty, forming huge, erect spikes of foaming, pink-flecked flowers.

The scarlet-flowered variety is particularly handsome.

FLOWER LEGENDS

LONG ago, says a legend, a maiden fell in love with the heir of a rival clan. Because of this she was imprisoned in her father's castle.

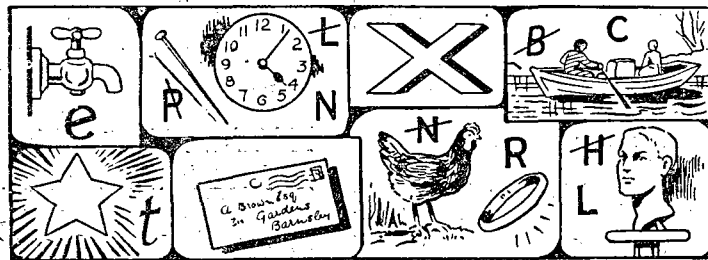
One night her lover, disguised as a wandering minstrel, sang beneath the castle walls. Recognising his voice, the maiden slipped a russet-coloured velvet cloak over her golden gown and quietly left the banqueting hall.

She climbed an old tree and tied a silken cord to a stout branch, but on making the descent the cord snapped and she was killed by the fall.

The goddess Venus, grieved by this tragic event, transformed the maiden into a plant—the sweet-scented wallflower—whose soft, velvet petals still retain the colours worn by the maiden long ago.

A colourful picture puzzle

Can you find what these pictures represent and then put a colour in front of each to make eight well-known phrases or names? *Answer next week*

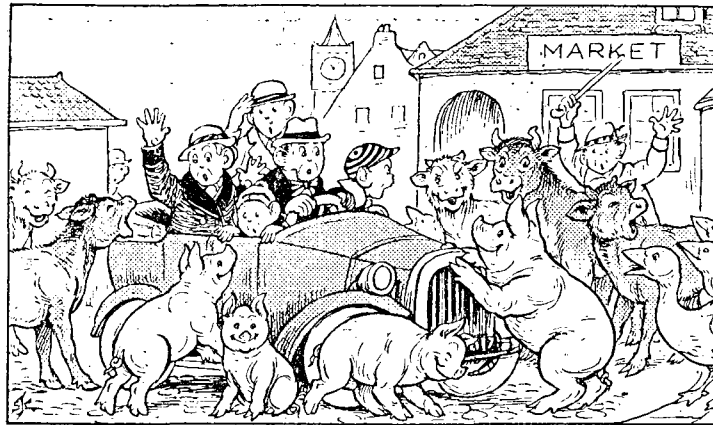


When . . .

. . . is a door not a door?

When it is ajar

SLOW PROGRESS FOR THE JACKO FAMILY



The Jackos had driven into town, quite forgetting that it was Market Day! Hardly had they got in the Square than they found themselves completely surrounded by inquisitive cattle, pigs, and geese! "Oh, heavens!" groaned Father. "I wonder how long we shall have to wait here?" Jacko grinned as he suggested: "At least until the cows go home."

How things pan out

WHEN we say "let's see how things pan out" we mean, of course, that we will see how things will develop. The phrase originated from the days of the gold rush.

Prospectors used to sift possible gold-bearing gravel in a pan under running water. The gravel was washed away, leaving the heavier gold in the bottom of the pan.

Rush hour

PUFFED a tired young rabbit from Bow:

"My dandelion clock must be slow.

I raced down the lane, But my chase was in vain, For the train left an hour ago."

Fellow sufferer

"I'm so worried," confided the patient. "I'm sure I'm losing my memory."

"There's no need to worry," replied the doctor in his best bedside manner, "just you forget all about it."

SPOT THE . . .

OTTER as he glides gracefully through the water. But if he sees you, his flat head will promptly vanish beneath the surface, and it is most unlikely that he will reappear.



Otters can stay submerged for quite a long time. Sometimes they cling to a rock or branch beneath the water so that only their nostrils remain visible.

The otter has dense, brownish-grey fur, a thick, tapering tail, and very short legs. As well as being a superb swimmer, he is agile on land, able to climb and run, and travel long distances.

Riddle-me-ree

MY first is in library, also in books;
My second's in kitchen, but never in cooks;
My third is in icicles, also in ice;
My fourth is in pretty, but not in nice;
My fifth is in cold and also in cool;
My sixth is in holiday, also in school;
My last is in seeing and also in eyes;
My whole is a present all boys and girls prize.

Answer next week

The Children's Newspaper, May 8, 1954

MISUNDERSTOOD

"**WILL** I be able to put this wallpaper on myself?" asked the customer.

"Well—er—yes, I suppose so," came the answer, "but it's really meant for walls."

What is . . .

. . . the difference between a nightwatchman and a butcher?

One stays awake and the other weighs a scale

THREE-IN-ONE

CITY and seaport on the Adriatic. Italian opera composer.

Book of the Old Testament.

North Russian port.

Large East Indian island.

Fabulous creature in the Royal Arms.

Name of Surrey and Yorkshire town.

To find the answers to these clues link three of the letter-groups below. Write the answers in a list and you will find that their first and last letters spell the name of a popular adventure story by R. L. Stevenson.

Are at Eccl esia gel han hm ico ni ond ra Ric rn Ros si stes Sum te Tri Un

Answer next week

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER'S

Townsmen's puzzle.	Burnley
Three-in-one	
M alay A	FAN SOLID
A steris K	E ELK ACE
N orro Y	EVE UPSET
N ugge T	I DEALS E
E diaburg H	O A V O R
R adiu M	E BEATEN
S iberi A	PEARL LED
M endelssohn N	OWN AIM U
	TEEMS SON

Stationer's puzzle. Rulers, envelopes, rubber, pen, exercise books

BEDTIME CORNER

ROVER IS NO RETRIEVER

BILLY and Paul, with Rover trotting beside them, made their way into the park to play cricket. But there were no other boys to play with.

"Never mind," said Billy. "We can take turns to bowl to each other—and here we have the perfect fielder." And he pointed to Rover.

Paul began bowling. The first few balls Billy tapped straight back to him. Then Billy missed a faster one and the ball went rolling along the grass behind him.

"Fetch it, boy," cried Billy.

And Rover was off in a flash.

But instead of bringing the ball back he seemed to be playing with it.

Billy went up to him—and saw that Rover was not playing, he was trying to get the ball into his mouth. But it was too big and he could not get his teeth round it.

"Well, we have lost our fielder," said Billy to Paul. "If we want Rover to fetch balls we shall just have to play tennis."

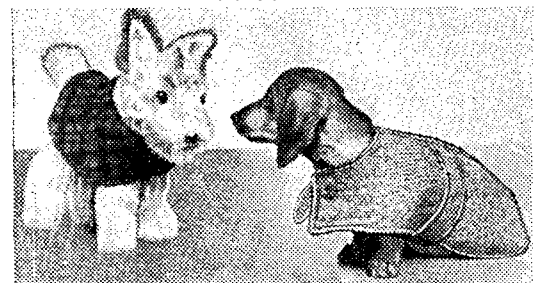
The cherry that blossomed into a tree

A CHERRY was left all alone on the tree.
"Of what use am I?" it said.
"What use can I be?
I'm too sour to eat, and shrivelled to see,
My companions have gone, and left only me."
So at last in despair it dropped on a mound
And thought to itself 'I shall never be found.'

Months passed away and then Springtime came round
And up shot a tiny green spike from the ground!
And year after year it grew and it flourished.
By warm Mother Earth it was fed and was nourished,
Each Spring twas a vision of pale pink and green;
In summer the cherries a joy to be seen.

Let's be friends

"Come on now," this pup seems to be saying to the toy, "say something. Don't be so stuffy."



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